GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5584
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2001
MEDICINES UNDER THE PURVIEW OF DPCO
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a): whether it is a fact that various medicines in the country fall under the purview of Drug (Price Control) Order;

(b): if so, the total number of such medicines during March 2000 to March 2001, separately;

(c): whether it is a fact that prices of medicines under the purview of Drug (Price Control) Order have increased during the said period;

(d): if so, the percentage of increase registered therein; and

(e): the percentage of increase in the prices of drugs which do not fall under the purview of the said Order?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA)

(a) & (b): In the Drugs (Prices Control) Order 1995, presently 74 bulk drugs and formulations based thereon are under price control.

(c) & (d): Price fixation/revision of prices of drugs is an ongoing and continuous process. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, an attached office of the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, have between the period March, 2000 to March, 2001, fixed/revised prices of 523 Scheduled formulation packs. Of the 523 packs, prices have been increased for 92 packs and reduced for 339 packs. Prices for 91 packs were fixed for the first time while no change was effected from the existing level in the case of one pack. Out of the 92 packs, the price increase for 89 packs was upto 25% while for the remaining 3 packs, the increase was between 25% to 50%.

(e): The prices of non-scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers. NPPA has conducted a study on 958 such medicines, having value of Rs.1 crore and above in December, 1999 for the period December, 1994 and December, 1999. Out of these 958 medicines, prices of 846 medicines have increased and that of 110 medicines have decreased. The price of two packs remained unchanged. While the price increase in respect of 579 medicines was below 50%, in respect of 267 medicines the price has gone up beyond 50%.